

**Bishop Unified School District
Minutes of the Board of Trustees Special Meeting
Communication Workshop • October 14, 2019 • 5:30 pm
Carl Lind Board Room, Located in the Bronco Student Center at BUHS
301 N. Fowler Street, Bishop, CA 93514**

(Site maps are available on website under School Board, Board Meeting Schedule, and Campus Maps)

Individuals who require special accommodations, including, but not limited to an American Sign Language interpreter, accessible seating or documentation in accessible formats, should contact the Superintendent or designee at least two days before the meeting.

Members of the public are encouraged to attend Board meetings and address the Board concerning any item on the agenda within the Board's jurisdiction. A person wishing to be heard by the Board shall first be recognized by the President and shall then proceed to comment as briefly as the subject permits. (BB 9323)

*Any materials required by law to be made available to the public prior to a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the District can be inspected at the following address during normal business hours:
Bishop Unified School District Office – 301 N Fowler Street, Bishop, CA 93514*

The Board of Trustees has called this meeting for the BUSD Governance Team to review and discuss communication, district-wide goals and the current mission statement of the Bishop Unified School District.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER - at 5:33 PM

Present: Dr. Taylor Ludwick, Trina Orrill, Dr. Claudia-Moya Tanner and Virginia Figueroa

2.0 FLAG SALUTE – Led by Trina Orrill

3.0 DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

3.1 Approval, Cynthia De La Mora / 2019-2020 Home/Hospital Tutor

ACTION: A motion to approve was made by Trina Orrill, seconded by Virginia Figueroa. None opposed, no abstentions and the motion carried 4-0

3.2 Discussion – The Communication Procedures between the Bishop Unified Board of Trustees, the Superintendent and District Stakeholders.

President, Dr. Ludwick described what a workshop is; it's to work on items. Fine tuning starts with the board, there's obvious conflict and we're beginning to repair it. The boards principals are to get back to doing business, we are not here for conflict or making it harder on the teachers.

Vice President/Clerk, T. Orrill shared the current state is obviously not what we want to be in. Looking forward, examine communication from top down/bottom up. Without communication we don't get stakeholders (students, staff, parents and community). Nobody wants to be in this position we are in, she is looking at making sure it's right and move forward.

Member, C. Moya-Tanner shared she needs to stop using the excuse of being new and learning. She never thought nor planned to be in this situation. To move forward, we all need to normalize and get feedback. As a board member, I won't realize what's going on without your feedback. It's going to be uncomfortable, but that's how we learn. Feedback is what we give our students to learn.

Member V. Figueroa shared although she's new being proactive is important. Virginia thanked everyone who has reached out to the board, she appreciated it. She has been receiving many emails and she's doing her best to respond to them all. We have a lot of changes, but communication is a big part.

President, Dr. Ludwick is reflecting on how we got here, meeting with Mr. Ray at the beginning of summer, the board sat down with him and identified areas of need. In our minds, the three main areas were: 1) increase student achievement, 2) student engagement and 3) smaller class sizes. We then gave Mr. Ray marching orders to move forward in these areas, we did not give clear timeline/assessment. Mr. Ray came out of there thinking we're broken and needs to be fixed right away.

Vice President/Clerk, T. Orrill mentioned looking back and reflecting on that, for her, so excited for the new year, new superintendent, identifying these areas of need. The Board has looked at making smaller class sizes for years and making it easier on the teachers and student achievements. Through the excitement of the prospects they had talked about for years the communication got lost.

President, Dr. Ludwick told the audience he appreciated their input, although it's hard to hear, he appreciated it. There's a way to shine light, they've received so much negativity because of how fast things happened. We weren't able to show off what we wanted to address. We shot Mr. Ray out of a canon and missed an important step. He'd like folks to sit down with Jon, wipe the slate clean.

V.P./Clerk, T. Orrill echoed what Dr. Ludwick said. It makes her sad that Mr. Ray hasn't gotten to know our district and the district not able to get to know him. We have an incredible staff and community. I'd like everyone to meet the Mr. Ray we met in his interview.

Member, V. Figueroa feels we need to build trust between everybody; we are here for the students.

Member, C. Moya-Tanner feels we can only move forward and focus on our strengths.

President, T. Ludwick, he'd like to reiterate to board that the hand and foot work together not to get too far ahead of one of the other.

Mr. Ray shared he has an open door policy. He'd love to be part of staff meetings, co-op meetings, and visiting teacher classrooms.

3.3 Discussion – Electronic/Social Media Communications in the District

Taylor Ludwick asked Jon Ray about improvement in tech communications. He responded by telling the board that with both him and Marnie Casteel being new to their positions, we would be using Justin Norcross and the ICOE tech team to improve the entire system. We will be assessing our website for protocols, user friendliness, security, and content so that we can improve the overall user experience. Dr. Ludwick asked about the success of AERIES Communication. Garrett Carr responded that there is data regarding how emails and texts are being responded to and they are assessing that information. Problems so far have come from internet failure, no family email on file, lack of cell phone numbers in AERIES. He also commented that families seem to like text messages and Facebook the best. Abby Sada, District EL Coordinator, agreed by stating that the DELAC committee parents also preferred text and Facebook communication. Claudia Moya-Tanner asked about being able to communicate to more than one phone number per students. Justin Norcross explained that AERIES Communication will contact one land line and one cell number per Contact, not per student as Blackboard used to. So anyone listed as a contact on a student profile can be tagged to receive communications. Midge Milici added that standardization of AERIES input is in the works which will clean up some of the problems that have added to communications issues in the past. Dr. Ludwick asked Patrick Twomey about experience at HSMS. Pat explained that while text messaging is the best received, message length limits can be an issue. David Kalk agreed and added that attachments can be tricky. Katie Kolker indicated that Palisades is small so making phone calls does work, but that parents like texts. Other on-line platforms were discussed and overall it was determined that our current website was not well utilized and needed improvement. Justin Norcross added that change is long overdue and we need to look at different templates. Dr. Ludwick asked about a timeline to which Jon Ray explained that we have an annual contract with Aptegy so we will be assessing programs this year in order to make an informed decision for 20/21. In the meantime, we are learning about legalities of posting, what to do if we can't post on-line, making changes happen easier and quicker, making sure things are posted in English and Spanish, and possibly a way to alert parents when new things are posted. Shawn Bengochia from the Indian Education Center discussed information collected at the Parent Action Committee meeting. He told the board that they too liked the text messaging and that communication is better, it still could be improved. Claudia Moya-Tanner added that we still need to be a little careful about sending out too much information and over-saturating our families. Justin Norcross' comment regarding keeping this in mind when shopping for a new provider/platform concluded the discussion.

3.4 Discussion - Superintendent will Provide Guidelines for Committee Formation and Possible Committee Structure. BB 9130, BP 1220, AR 1220, EC 35147 (enclosure)

V.P./Clerk, T. Orrill requested looking at all committees and the committee structures. There are so many different committees. Mr. Ray shared district level committees are: LCAP (Parent Advisory Committee), PAC (Indian Ed. Parent Advisory Committee), DELAC (District Language Advisory Committee) and then we have site level committees, which consist of: SSC (School site Council) in the elementary and high school levels, ELAC (English Language Advisory Committee).

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BB9131 – 1) DELAC (district language advisory committee) is made up of parents/guardians. 2) PAC (Indian Ed Parent Advisory Committee) parents/guardians appointed by the tribal council.

A couple of community member shared ideas for committees and their ideas how to fill them to build trust and move forward.

Superintendent, Ray mentioned he did not have information on the districts safety committee and he's asked Mr. Kalk to bring a summary of where the committee had left off.

Site Councils are committees located at each school site and is a standing committee made up of parents, students and staff (equal forum). This committee must follow the Brown Act.

President, Dr. Ludwick asked how often they meet, is the committee on a trimester schedule? Mr. Ray answered yes.

V.P./Clerk, T. Orrill asked how much longitude, specific people, specific tasks and specific timelines.

President, Dr. Ludwick asked specific, lots of latitude, by-laws? Is there a template? Mold to hand them?

Mr. Ray said no, we can't dictate the by-laws; the site council must create their own by-laws and officers.

The District can give them guideline templates.

Dr. Ludwick suggest not taking action as the board needs to understand what clubs we have now and are they functioning. Discussing the committees, he feels everyone (community/parents) needs to learn more about the committees before moving forward.

3.5 Approval, Quarterly Uniform Complaint Report Summary (enclosures)

A teacher finds it hard to believe there have been zero complaints. She knows for a fact, the complaint form is not easily accessible on the district website (very difficult to find).

ACTION: A motion to approve was made by Trina Orrill, seconded by Dr. Claudia Moya-Tanner. None opposed, no abstentions and the motion carried 4-0

4.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

Concerning Items of Interest not Addressed on the Formal Agenda:

This time is set aside at each meeting for members of the audience to speak to the Board regarding questions or issues not on the agenda. No action may be taken, but items may be placed on a future agenda.

Craig London thanked the board for the workshop information being put on the agenda. He commented that our website needs improvement and should be easier to navigate. He mentioned that the letter from Mr. Ray, minutes from the July workshop and decisions made in July were not on the site and that the minutes from the June meeting were not clear in relation to the Mission Statement. He also asked about why Mrs. Beard and Mrs. Daugherty were not teaching in a traditional classroom since that is what the schedule change was supposed to accomplish. Gretchen Skrotzki explained that right now, these two teachers are teaching PE and Art for 2 sections each and then providing intervention. Dr. Ludwick explained that the process to convert these positions is a multi-step process.

5.0 CLOSED SESSION

5.1 Conference with District Labor Negotiator (Government Code Section 54957.6) Bishop Unified School District's Teachers' Association (CTA/BTA) and Bishop Unified School District's Classified Bargaining Unit (CSEA) District Negotiator: Jon Ray, Superintendent


5.2 Public employee discipline/dismissal/release pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957(b)(1).

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ADJOURNMENT – No Action to Report out. 9:47 PM



Dr. Taylor Ludwick, President



Trina Orrill, Clerk

11.21.19

Date

11.21.19

Date

Respectfully Submitted by:
Marnie Casteel
BUSD Administrative Assistant

Bishop Unified School District

SCHOOL BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1. Set Direction**
- 2. Establish the Structure**
- 3. Demonstrate Support**
- 4. Ensure Accountability**
- 5. Demonstrate Community Leadership**

Mission Statement

The Bishop Unified School Governance Team, as representatives of our community, is committed to providing the best education to all students ensuring they reach their full potential.

Governance Team Priorities 2018-2019

- 1. Raise academic performance levels K-12 and maintain a balanced curriculum**
- 2. Support and monitor annual academic growth through regular review of LCAP metric and assessment data**
- 3. Ensure positive student engagement, morale and school connectedness**
- 4. Provide safe and secure campuses**
- 5. Recruit, retain and value a dedicated teaching staff**
- 6. Maintain fiscal solvency**

Addressing the Board

There are many different ways individuals may choose to address the Board. Those who wish to request an agenda item may do so by submitting the request in writing, along with supporting documents and information, to the Superintendent at least eight school days prior to a scheduled meeting date. Those wishing to address items on the agenda may do so when recognized by the Board President near the beginning of the meeting or when the President requests public comments when the item is being considered. For matters not on the agenda, there is an opportunity for individuals to address the Board when the Board President requests comments from the public near the beginning of the meeting. The Board shall not take action on such items at that meeting.